Construction of bunkers by Pakistan

†3121. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the bordering areas of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Bikaner, Pakistan has constructed many new bunkers and set up army posts;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon; and

(c) what action has been taken in the above said region keeping in view the security aspect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) It has been reported that Pakistan Rangers/ Army trops are engaged in the construction of bunkers/pill boxes, new posts, observation towers, defence bundhs, etc. along/in close proximity of International Border, including near Barmer, Jaisalmer & Bikaner.

(b) and (c) Construction and improvement of defences, including setting up of new posts along the border, is an on-going process. Pakistani activities are being closely monitored and suitable remedial measures are being adopted to deny advantage to the adversary.

Crime in trains

†3122. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of robbery, dacoity and poisoning in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar bound trains have increased during the last few years;

(b) if so, the data of the incidents took place during the last one year;

(c) whether Government are considering to make strongest security arrangements in trains to bring down the occurrence of such incidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) As per data maintained by the National Crime Records Bureau, the incidents of robbery and dacoity in running trains in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar show a mixed trend during 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 (upto June). The details of the same are given below:

State	Robbery				Dacoity			
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2002	2003	2004	2005
Bihar	37	40	44	12	44	68	65	8
Madhya Pradesh	29	27	21	5	1	2	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	27	30	25	14	10	13	14	3

(Figures for 2005 are provisional)

The information on the incidents of poisoning in trains is not maintained by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(c) and (d) 'Police' and 'Public order' being the State Subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, prevention and detection of crime on Railways including running trains is the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs has from time to time been issuing advisories to the State Governments to make concerted efforts to check crimes on trains. Government has taken the following steps for providing better security to the travelling passengers in trains and passenger areas:

1. Amendments have been carried out in Railways Act, 1989 and RPF Act, 1957 to enable the Railways to effectively control crimes on railways.
2. Railway Protection Force (RPF) is being deployed to escort many trains and also deployed in the passenger area.
3. RPF has also bee empowered to deal with minor offences affecting the train operations such as alarm chain pulling, roof travel, touting, ticket less travel, unauthorized entry etc.;
4. Coordination meetings between railways and state police are held periodically to review remedial measures for prevention of crimes on railways, the position in the sections, trains and stations affected by crime.